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MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Canaan Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Howard College Library

RUHAMA BAPTIST CHURCH,

EAST LAKE,

Jefferson County, Alabama,

OCTOBER 11TH, 12TH AND 13TH. 1889.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.:
McDAVID PRINTING COMPANY.
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OFFICERS:

Moderator,

A. J. WALDROP, Woodlawn, Alabama.

Clerk,

R. W. BECK, East Lake, Alabama.

The next session of the Association will be held with the Bessemer Baptist Church, at Bessemer, Alabama, commencing Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1890, at 10 o'clock a. m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1 Reading of Church Letters.
2 Enrollment of Delegates.
3 Election of Officers.
4 Receive Churches Applying for Admission.
5 Appoint Special Committees.
6 Receive Correspondence.
7 Return Correspondence.
8 Miscellaneous Business.
9 Report on Foreign Missions.
10 Report on Home Missions.
11 Report on State Missions.
12 Report on Religious Literature and Colportage Work.
13 Report on Education.
14 Miscellaneous Business.
15 Report on Sabbath Schools.
16 Report on Temperance.
17 Report on Church Improvements.
18 Report on Documents.
19 Report on Nominations.
20 Report of Treasurer.
21 Report of Finance Committee.
22 Appoint Standing Committees.
23 Report of Committee on Spiritual Condition of Churches.
24 Report of Executive Committee.
25 Miscellaneous Business.
26 Adjournment.

FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

CANAAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

EAST LAKE, ALA., October 11, 1889.

The fifty-sixth annual session of the Canaan Baptist Association assembled in the meeting-house of the Ruhama Baptist Church at East Lake, at 10:30 o'clock a. m., on Friday, October 11th, 1889.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. A. J. Waldrop, and thirty minutes were given to religious services, conducted by Rev. J. A. Glenn, after which the Moderator read selection of Scripture from the 19th Psalm, and prayer was offered by Rev. R. W. Sawyer.

The order of business, as published in the last minutes, was adopted as the order of business for this session.

Brethren B. F. Riley and A. W. McGaha were appointed to read the letters from the churches, after which the following names were enrolled as delegates from churches:

Avondale—

Adger—W. A. Byram.

Bessemer—G. T. Lee, J. B. Glenn, A. M. Hendon, J. L. Thurman and A. L. Johnson.

Bethany—Levi McBrayer, C. W. McLendon and J. M. Pearson.

Birmingham, First—W. L. Pickard, D. I. Purser, A. B. Johnston, E. L. Ballard and G. G. Miles.

Birmingham, Southside—R. H. Sterrett, P. S. Montgomery, Robert Holtam, P. T. Hale, M. G. Hudson, C. N. Clurch and W. N. Malone.

Birmingham, Second—A. N. Hawkins, E. M. Haggard, J. P. Rockett and M. M. Wood.

Birmingham, Third—

Canaan—Geo. W. Cooley, E. H. Walls and T. L. Shaw.

Central—J. M. Frazier, John Franklin and A. K. Holmes.

Concord—James Letcher, D. B. Franklin, Frank Letcher and Wm. Echols.

Dolomite—J. J. Nicholson, J. J. Walker, R. Y. Robertson, J. A. Sartain and S. G. Robertson.

Elyton—C. S. Jordan, D. R. Weaver, T. H. Wildsmith and W. W. Harris.

Enon—L. L. Little, I. J. Hannah and William Hannah.

Ensley, First—Oscar Went,

Green Spring—
Hopewell—
Mount Olive—J. M. Landrum and B. Darden.
New Prospect—M. T. Branham, W. L. C. Vann, L. L. Heaton, J. D. Folks, C. C. Vann and A. S. Pinson.
Oak Grove—Festus Creel, James A. McCombs, T. P. Early and B. F. Hughes.
Pratt Mines—J. M. Huey, J. H. Eubanks and John H. Hancock.
Pleasant Ridge—O. J. Waldrop, T. Robertson, H. H. Waldrop, H. N. Huey and T. M. Salter.
Ruhama—B. F. Riley, A. W. McGaha, C. C. Jones, E. B. Waldrop and R. W. Beck.
Salem—W. R. Hilliard, J. H. Murphy, J. L. Watson and J. T. Levi.
Springville—John J. Washington, A. G. Nunnelley, G. M. Truss and J. W. Inzer.
Trussville—M. K. Vann, D. N. Talley, D. H. Vann and R. H. Hendon.
Warrior—
Woodlawn—A. J. Waldrop, S. R. C. Adams, P. M. Agan and F. M. Wood.

The following officers were unanimously re-elected, to-wit:

Moderator—A. J. Waldrop.
Clerk—R. W. Beck.
Corresponding Secretary—M. M. Wood.
Treasurer—F. M. Wood.

New churches and others wishing to unite with this Association, were called for and the following churches presented their letters: Pleasant Grove, First Baptist Church of Ensley and Adger Baptist Church.

W. W. Harris moved to refer these applications to the following committee, viz: W. W. Harris, W. L. C. Vann and G. G. Miles. After discussion, upon motion of S. R. C. Adams, the application of Pleasant Grove Church only, was referred to the above committee.

Upon motion of G. D. Slaton, the First Baptist Church of Ensley and the Adger Baptist Church, were duly elected members of this body.

The following special committees were announced by the chair, to wit:

Finance—G. G. Miles, F. M. Wood and D. N. Talley.
Documents—W. N. Malone, A. B. Johnston and W. K. Vann.
Nominations—G. G. Miles, G. T. Lee and W. L. C. Vann.
Devotions—Pastors and Deacons of Ruhama Church, together with S. R. C. Adams and W. M. Malone.

Upon motion of D. J. Purser, the hours for meeting and adjourning were fixed at 9:30 a. m.; adjourn at 12 o'clock m. 2 o'clock p, m.; adjourn at 4:30 o'clock p. m. 7:30 o'clock p. m., and adjourn at will.

Correspondents were received as follows:

Cahaba Valley Association—Rev. R. W. Inzer, E. H. Inzer, Rev. J. A Glenn, J. S. E. Robinson and J. C. Harris.
Tuscaloosa Association—Rev. J. T. Yerby.
State Mission Board—Rev. W. B. Crumpton.
Judson Institute—Abner Williams.
Coosa River Association—Rev. J. R. Lloyd and Rev. S. Henderson.

After which, the body, in adjourning was led by the Moderator in a special prayer for the speedy recovery of Rev. W. L. Pickard. Adjourned.

First Day—Afternoon Session.

2 o'clock p. m.—The body was called to order by the Moderator. After singing, prayer was offered by J. L. James.

After reading several delayed letters from churches, upon motion of B. F. Riley, the Committee on Religious Literature was made a standing Committee of the Association, and the following committee was appointed to report on this subject to the present session of the body:—Committee consists of B. F. Riley, E. B. Waldrop and D. N. Vann.

Upon motion of A. W. McGaha, it was ordered that any member of this body attending any other Association, with which we correspond, shall be a delegate from this body to such Association.

Upon motion of A. W. McGaha, the report on Foreign Missions was postponed to a later hour.

The report on Education was read by A. B. Johnston, and was discussed at length by A. B. Johnston, Abner Williams, B. F. Riley, W. B. Crumpton and D. I. Purser, in strong and able speeches. The hour for adjournment having arrived, the discussion of the subject of Education was postponed until the evening session.

Upon motion of P. T. Hale, the time for adjourning was postponed in order that Revs. Bronson and McCollum, the lately appointed Missionaries of Foreign Mission Board to Japan, might appear before the body and talk some about their future work. It was a grateful hour to the Association to hear these brethren talk about their work in the foreign field, who are so soon to leave their native shores for that far-off Island of the West, bearing the sweet message of the everlasting Gospel of Christ Jesus to that benighted people. And while singing the grand old hymn, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross," the members of the body extended the parting hand to the missionaries, praying God's blessings upon them and promising larger contributions for missions in the future.

Rev. C. W. Hare, of the *Alabama Baptist*, was given the floor for a short while, and presented the claims of our paper and received subscribers.

Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Corresponding Secretary of our State Board, presented the claims of his wonderful paper. Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. B. F. Riley, from the Scripture of Matthew 13:17, after which, the body entered upon the further discussion of the report on Education, and speeches were made by C. W. Hare, W. B. Crumpton and A. W. McGaha, especially along the line of Ministerial Education, after which a collection for Ministerial Education was taken by W. B. Crumpton, amounting to $318.00. Adjourned.

SATURDAY—MORNING SESSION.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, and after singing, and prayer by Rev. M. M. Wood, a short time was devoted to miscellaneous business.

R. W. Beck moved to make a standing committee on Colportage work, but after discussion, it was so amended as to constitute the committee on "Religious Literature and Colportage Work."

The letter from Mt. Olive Church was read by A. W. McGaha and her delegates received. The body then continued the discussion of the report on Education, and after an earnest speech by Rev. S. Henderson, the report was adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education beg leave to report as follows:

No one, we suppose, doubts, at least theoretically, the value of education. Our life is but a school, in which, let us hope, we are being fitted for a higher sphere of existence; but while we place a high value on education, we think that like bread, "the staff of life," it may be underdone or overdone, wholesome or unwholesome, as circumstances and conditions vary. Some seem to think it a panacea for all the ills to which flesh is heir, and it certainly is being pushed, in some directions for all it is worth, whether wisely or not, there is room to doubt; for instance we question the wisdom of the public school system: it seems to us, to come short, perhaps, necessarily, of any satisfactory standard; it seeks to put all on a parity, and to cast the whole population, male and female, white and black in one educational mould; it invokes and encourages the paternal form of government, than which our race has known no greater curse, and educates the people into the idea of looking to the government for the solution of all their difficulties, and accustoms them to that governmental interference with private affairs, from which, we as Baptists, have, in the light of history, all to fear and nothing to hope, by seeking to educate the children of the thriftless, the dissipated and the idle, on a par with those of the prudent, economical and industrious, and to give to the young of each of these classes, the same advantages in life. It destroys, as far as its influences goes, the stimulus to exertion and prudent economy which a desire to better the condition of their offispring exerts on parents.

Why do men and women toil and deny themselves, is it not in a very great measure, that they may give their children greater advantages in life, a better start and a fairer course, than they themselves have had?

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Whatever lessens the advantage to be gained in this direction, lessens the stimulus to individnal exertion and weakens that sense of responsibility and its resulting self-reliance, which are such valuable factors in human character.

Unfortunately the tendency of the public school system is to injure or destroy the efficiency of private schools. We sadly lack in Alabama, and nowhere in her borders, more than in Birmingham, good private schools, both male and female. The location of Howard College, in good degree relieves the difficulty with our boys, though for them good preparatory schools are needed, but what to do with our daughters, how and where to educate them is indeed a knotty question; there is not even a good, much less a first-rate female school in Jefferson county, and to this want we call the attention of the Association and of those whose profession it is to teach, believing as we do that there is a wide and open door for profit and usefulness in the establishment of a first-rate female school in Birmingham or its immediate vicinity. We do not desire to detract from the well earned reputation of Judson and Central, these we recommend as being the best female schools to be had under present circumstances, but we do not believe any boarding school for young ladies, no matter how ably conducted, can or should take the place of good schools and parental care and watchfulness at home.

In Howard College, we have an institution which should be sustained and which we hope and believe will grow in influence and power. It should have adequate buildings and conveniences and we are glad to learn that there is a brightening prospect of getting these. There should also be, possibly, a partial endowment, though we are no believers in free tuition, even for ministerial students; these may in rare cases need aid, but the patent and apparent fact that preachers who have abandoned the ministry or whom the ministry has abandoned, are as thick, in other vocations as "leaves in Valimbrosa," proves that many have answered when somebody else was called, indeed we know of but two calls to the ministry, one the internal, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel," the other the external "A dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me."

In the first case, if the young man possesses brains, piety, energy and aptness to teach, (and without these he certainly ought not to be in the ministry,) combined with the "fire in the bones," he will get the ne essary education, without a doubt, help or no help, and the difficulties with which he meets, will make him the more consecrated and the better preacher, for we love most that for which we sacrifice most.

In the other case, those, his local church members, his neighbors, who have known him from youth up, and who, thinking him worthy, lay on him a dispensation of the gospel, are the ones to see to his education, if he needs aid and cannot by self-denial and sacrifice help himself. There are too many failures in the ministry nowadays, the road to the pulpit is made so smooth and the grades so light that there is great danger of many more young men doing, as it is evident many have done, selecting this as a profession to be continued or abandoned as success smiles or disappointment frowns on them.

We say, in rare cases, some may need help and may be benefitted by it, but indiscriminate and ill-advised stimulus to youthful ambition to study for the ministry, as for other professions must needs be hurtful; and indications are not lacking that the tendency is in this direction.

Respectfully submitted.

A. B. JOHNSTON, Chairman.

To the Fifty-sixth Annual Session Canaan Baptist Association.

The report on Home Missions was read by M. G. Hudson, and upon motion of A. B. Johnston, was so amended as to read

in the second resolution, "One of her members," &c., instead of "One of her deacons," &c. A motion to adopt the report was made and was substituted by a motion of M. M. Wood, to have all reports on Missions read and discuss the whole subject of Missions at the same time, which was passed.

The report on State Missions was read by S. R. C. Adams.

The report on Foreign Missions was read by P. T. Hale.

The Moderator here announced the special committee, consisting of G. D. Slaton, J. H. Eubanks and R. T. Robertson, to apportion the amount asked of this Association by the State Mission Board, among the different churches.

The whole subject of Missions was then placed before the body and W. B. Crumpton spoke to the question in a very earnest and instructive talk.

The hour for the special order having arrived, the floor of the Association was awarded to Major Abner Williams, Financial Agent for the Judson Institute, for the purpose of presenting to the body the claims of that noble institution. After his speech he took a collection for the Judson, in cash and subscriptions, amounting to $585.00. Adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

After singing and prayer, by Rev. F. P. Douglas, upon motion of G. G. Miles, the body heard the report of the committee to whom was referred the application for membership of the Pleasant Grove church. The report was read by G. G. Miles, and upon motion was adopted.

We your committee appointed to inquire into the application for membership into the Canaan Association, of Pleasant Grove church, beg leave to report the following:

1. After diligent investigation we find that there is some irregularity in the organization of said church, owing to the fact that the presbytery constituting said church was composed of brethren only one of whom was an ordained minister (but not regularly in the work).

2. We, therefore, believing that we as an Association, composed of Baptist churches, should receive into our membership only such churches as are properly accredited and organized according to Baptist usages, do respectfully recommend that the application of the Pleasant Grove church for membership into this body be declined.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. Harris,
G. G. Miles,
W. L. C. Vann,
Committee.

The report on Religious Literature was read by B. F. Riley. It was discussed by B. F. Riley, P. S. Montgomery, W. B. Crumpton, P. T. Hale, S. Henderson, A. B. Johnston and M. M. Wood, and after some slight changes in the wording of the report, it was, upon motion of M. M. Wood, adopted,

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE AND COLPORTAGE.

Your committee deem the matter of the dissemination of wholesome literature one of the chief features of the work of our denomination. Our population is rapidly increasing; our industries are multiplying, and our railroads and towns are being built with amazing rapidity. We are admonished, as the largest denomination of Christians in the State, to give such attention to this agency as its importance demands. Providence has hedged us in on the one hand with a massive population, and on the other, with abundant facilities of literature and has made us the disseminators of this literature.

It is a fact that we, as Baptists, have never yet appreciated the power of the printing press. Others, than Baptists, occupying the same territory, do appreciate this wonderful agency of evangelization and are utilizing it to its fullest extent. This fact is mentioned only to stimulate our people to give greater diligence to so important a matter as the distribution of denominational literature.

Attention is directed to the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society at Philadelphia. Besides its series of Sunday-school papers, graded so as to suit all classes in our Sabbath-schools, it publishes thousands of works precisely suited to the demands of the times. Large numbers of these works are to be found in the book and bible depository under the direction of State Secretary, W. B. Crumpton, at Marion.

We beg leave to call attention to the importance of sustaining our State organ, *The Alabama Baptist*, which is the channel of communication among the Baptist churches of the State.

There is a series of Sunday-school papers published by the Home Mission Board at Atlanta. The churches have the privilege of selecting between these and those of the American Baptist Publication Society.

Attention is also called to the *Foreign Mission Journal* and *Our Home Field.*

In view of the importance of the distribution of literature, already alluded to, we desire to call special attention to the maintenance of a colportage system in Alabama.

We desire to emphasize this matter, and that we more effectively do this we take the liberty of giving the exact text of the appeal of our State Mission Board upon this subject. Here it is.

"BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.—The board asks for $2,000 the coming year for colportage work. We want to employ good men to sell good books. The profits on the books will not pay a man for his services. We cannot employ without money for that purpose.

"Read of the good work which has been done in other States, and help us in carrying on this important work. The following is cut from a little pamphlet entitled, The Printing Press as a Power for Good, price 10 cents, post paid:

"'The one great book, which the world most needs, and that, too, which will do the world the most good, is the Bible. It is an interesting fact that the first book ever issued from the printing press, more than four and a half centuries ago, was the Bible; thus the press, in the very beginning of its work, giving intimation of the sublime purpose it was henceforth to subserve in the work of the world's evangelization. The Bible, too, is a Baptist book; and, as already set forth in these pages, is the chief exponent of our distinctive denominational tenets. First and foremost, then among the books we circulate should be the simple, unadulterated revelation from God. A thousand incidents illustrative of what this book can do to regenerate the heart, purify the moral nature, educate in the truth, and inspire with zeal for Christ and the salvation of men, could be given.'"

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. RILEY, Chairman.

Rev. G. D. Slaton, read the report on apportionment, which, upon motion, was adopted.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

To the Canaan Baptist Association:

We, your committee appointed to apportion to the different churches the amount asked for by the various Mission Boards, from this Association, beg leave to report as follows:

South Side Baptist church..	$350 00	New Prospect.....	$100 00
Avondale.....	100 00	Mt. Olive.....	10 00
Bessemer.....	50 00	Oak Grove.....	25 00
First Baptist church B'ham..	500 00	Pleasant Ridge.....	50 00
Second " " "	50 00	Pratt Mines.....	80 00
Third " " "	50 00	Ruhama.....	250 00
Bethany.....	10 00	Salem.....	25 00
Canaan.....	10 00	Springville.....	90 00
Dolomite.....	80 00	Trussville.....	125 00
Elyton.....	25 00	Warrior.....	75 00
Enon.....	10 00	Woodlawn.....	100 00
Green Springs.....	15 00	Adger.....	5 00
Ensley.....	5 00	Concord.....	10 00

Respectfully submitted.

G. D. SLATON, Chairman.

Upon motion of Dr. B. F. Riley, the further discussion of the subject of Missions was postponed until the evening session.

Upon motion of P. T. Hale, it was ordered that the clerk of this body prepare a tabulated statement of the contributions for all purposes, of the churches composing this body and publish the same in the *Alabama Baptist.*

The report of the Finance Committee was read by G. G. Miles, and, upon motion the same was adopted

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTE.

Minute Funds.

Salem church.....	$2 00	New Prospect church.....	$3 00
Central church.....	2 50	Warrior church.....	1 50
First Baptist church.....	5 00	Pleasant Ridge church.....	2 50
Adger Baptist church.....	2 50	Concord church.....	1 50
Second Baptist, B'ham	2 00	First Baptist church, Ensley..	1 00
Elyton church.....	2 00	Pratt Mines church.....	2 00
Oak Grove church.....	2 00	Woodlawn church.....	4 00
Mt. Olive church.....	1 00	Dolomite church.....	3 00
Trussville church.....	1 50	Bethany church.....	1 75
Enon church.....	2 25	South Side church.....	3 00
Springville church	3 20	Ruhama church.....	5 00

State Missions.

Pratt Mines..... $26 30

Home Missions.

Pratt Mines..... $13 15
Woodlawn..... 11 00

Ministerial Education.

Pleasant Ridge..... $ 5 00
Cash collections..... 23 82

Foreign Missions.

Pratt Mines	$14 15
Woodlawn	11 00
Bethany	5 00

General Missions.

Central church	$ 6 25
Springville	7 70
Pleasant Ridge	30 50
Woodlawn Busy Bees	2 00

STATEMENT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Cash received for Minutes	$ 60 70
" " General Missions	55 57
" " State Missions	26 30
" " Home Missions	24 15
" " Foreign Missions	33 15
" " Ministerial Education	28 82
Cash and pledges for Judson Institute	555 25
Total	$783 94

Respectfully submitted,

G. G. MILES.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was read by G. G. Miles, and, upon motion, the same was adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We your committee on nominations report as follows:

1. Place of next meeting, Bessemer church.

2. Time, on Friday before the Second Sunday in October, 1890.

3. Introductory to be preached by Rev. A. McGaha and S. R. C Adams, alternate.

4. Missionary sermon by Rev. W. L. Pickard, D. D., Rev. P. T. Hale, alternate.

5. Executive—R. J. Waldrop, Chairman; F. M. Wood, H. H. Brown, Gilbert Carter, M. G. Hudson, J. L. Thurman.

6. Delegates to State convention—Rev. P. T. Hale, Rev. D. I. Purser, Rev. W. L. Pickard, Rev. G. T. Lee, Rev. B. F. Riley, Rev. G. D. Slaton, R. W. Beck, J. M. Huey, A. B. Johnston and M. G. Hudson

7. Delegates—A. J. Waldrop, Rev. M. M. Wood, alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

G. G. MILES, Chairman.

The seport of the Committee on Devotions was read by A. W. McGaha, and upon motion the same was adopted.

REPORT ON DEVOTIONS.

Ruhama, 11 o'clock a. m.—Dr. Henderson. 7 o'clock p. m.—P. T. Hale.

Woodlawn, 11 o'clock a. m.———. 7 o'clock p. m.—W. E. Lloyd.

Avondale, 11 o'clock a. m.—R. W. Inzer. 7 o'clock p. m.—M. M. Wood.

South Side. 11 o'clock a. m.—P. T. Hale. 7 o'clock p. m.—S. R. C. Adams.

Second church, 11 o'clock a. m.—G. T. Lee. 7 o'clock p. m.—G. T. Lee,

Elyton, 11 o'clock a. m.—Jas. Hogan. 7 o'clock p. m. — F. P. Douglas.

Pratt Mines, 11 o'clock a. m. —J. A. Glenn. 7 o'clock p. m. J. A. Glenn.

First church, 11 o'clock a. m.—W. B. Crumpton. 7 o'clock p. m.—W. B. Crumpton.

Third church, 11 o'clock a. m.—Douglas. 7 o'clock p. m.—W. W. Harris.
Bessemer, 11 o'clock a. m.—M. M. Wood. 7 o'clock p. m.—Jas. Hogan.
Pratt Mines Prison, at 3 o'clock p. m.—R. W. Inzer and Reynolds.
Sunday-school mass meeting, at 9:30 o'clock a. m.—W. C. Hudson, W. C. Wood and G. W. Macon.

M. G. Hudson,
W. C. Wood,
G. W. Macon.
Committee on Services.

R. J. Miles, treasurer of this body, made his annual report, which was adopted.

The moderator then announced the following standing committees, to-wit.

Foreign Missions—P. T. Hale, G. T. Lee and G. W. Truss.
Home Missions—A. W. McGaha, A. G. Nunnelly and R. M. Robertson.
State Missions—W. L. Pickard, W. M. Malone and F. M. Wood.
Education—B. F. Riley, J. M. Huey and O. J Waldrop.
Sunday Schools—G. G. Miles, Z. T. Gilmer and Levi McBrayer.
Temperance—M. M. Wood, J. H. Eubanks and D. D. Franklin.
Religious Literature and Colportage Work—D. I. Purser, P. S. Montgomery and W. R. Hilliard.
Spiritual Condition of the Churches—W. W. Harris, W. A. Bynum and M. T. Branham.
Church Improvement—E. L. Ballard, C. C. Jones and William Hannah.

Upon motion of S. R. C. Adams, the clerk was instructed to write to all churches of this body which have not sent up a full financial statement and secure the same, provided he hears from them within two weeks. Adjourned.

Evening Session.

After singing, and prayer by Prof. B. F. Giles, the report on Documents was read by B. F. Riley, and upon motion of M. G. Hudson the same was adopted.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee on Documents beg leave to report that after a careful reading of all the church letters, we have noted the following facts :

1. That a majority of the churches appear to be in a more healthful condition, both financially and spiritually, than at your last session. Yet two or three of our churches, we regret to note, report no Sunday-school, no prayer-meeting, no Laidies' Aid Society and nothing done for Mission, nothing for indigent ministers, nothing for bible and colportage work.

2. That three churches are not represented at this session, either by letter or messenger, viz : Green Springs, Avondale and Hopewell.

3. That five churches report Ladies' Aid Societies, which are doing a good work.

We are commanded to provoke each other to good works.

For financial and other statistics we refer you to the statements tabulated by our worthy clerk.

We cannot urge with too much emphasis the necessity of the painstaking effort on the part of the clerks of our churches to give statistics of all church work. Their reports are not only authoritative in your body,

but are authoritative in the State Convention, in the Southern Baptist Convention and also in the year books which are scattered broad-cast throughout this broad land, many finding their way even to the old continent. To fail to report is to hide facts which earnest searchers after truth on all hands desire and are entitled to.

We repeat our text, "Provoke each other to good works."

W. M. MALONE,
A. B. JOHNSTON,
W. L. C. VANN.
Committee.

Upon motion of R. W. Beck, the order of the body requiring the clerk to prepare a tabulated statement of the finances of the Association was rescinded, and the report of the finance committee was re-committed to said committee and they were instructed to prepare said statement and hand it in to the clerk.

R. J. Waldrop reported for the Committee on the Spiritual Condition of the Church, stating that the committee had been unable to procure information sufficient to enable them to make a report of any value to the body.

R. J. Waldrop reported, verbally, for the Executive Committee, and he was instructed to hand a written report to the clerk.

The body then resumed the discussion of the general question, Missions, and was addressed by M. G. Hudson, B. F. Giles A. W. McGaha, B. F. Riley and W. B. Crumpton, in strong and earnest speeches, after which the various reports were, on motion, adopted:

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report:

The foreign mission field is so vast and important that your committee feels wholly incompetent to the task of appropriately presenting its claims and demands for the consideration of this body. While much has been done, yet we feel that as a denomination, possessing and holding the truth as it is in Jesus, claiming a desire to obey and follow Him in all things, we have fallen very far short of carrying out the great commission of our crucified but risen Lord, "Go Ye," &c. We feel that the Lord will delay His comming until this command of his is carried out; and, He will hold His churches responsible for the faithful performance of this great work.

This work is being prosecuted by the Foreign Mission Board of South Baptist Convention, located at Richmond, Va., and has been in operation forty-four years. Most, or all of the originators of this great work have fallen asleep. The question naturally arises what shall we do, into whose hands it has been committed?

Facts and Figures.

The work of the convention lies in each of five great continents: Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America. Our European Mission is in

Italy,

where we began work in 1871, in the city of Rome, under the shadow of the Vatican. The work is supervised by Rev. Dr. Geo. B. Taylor, of Virginia, and Rev. J. H. Eager, of Mississippi. Under their direction are

twelve Italian pastors and evangelists, besides a number of colporters. Some fourteen churches have been constitnted, dotted over Italy from the Alps to the lower point of the Peninsula, and embrace the Island of Sardinia. Rome, Venice, Bologna, Naples, are among the cities in which we have churches. New stations ars being constantly opened, baptisms are more frequent than ever before in the history of the mission, and the people are more willing to listen to the Word. Italy seems to be opening her heart to the Lord.

China.

In China we have three main stations extending along the eastern coast, from these centers the work is extending towards the interior.

The North China Mission (Tung Chow, being the center,) reports two churches, two main stations and twenty-two out-stations. There are 137 members. The churches in this station are self-supporting. Mrs. Crawford, who has been on the field thirty-odd years, is engaged in teaching the women, and hundreds are learning the truth from her lips and the books she distributes, and she reports the Chinese in this mission more friendly toward foreigners and ready to hear the Gospel than ever before; and she believes a day of rejoicing is at hand.

The Central Mission has four churches with 109 members, four ordained and unpaid native preachers. The contributions of these churches last year were $276.60. This mission has been lately reinforced, and now has twelve missionaries, (six men and six women), and another lady will join them this fall. A serious riot in Chinkiang led to the destruction of our mission property in that city, but the Chinese government makes prompt and ample compensation. The signs cheer the hearts of the workers here.

The South China Mission has seven Missionaries. To this number will soon be added one man and two women. Twenty-eight natives help in the work, 507 members reported. Good schools are maintained here. Contributions last year $563.97, over one dollar a member. Rev. E. Z. Simmons says "This is reaping time with us."

Japan.

Rev. J. W. McCollom, of Alabama, and Rev. J. A. Brunson, of South Carolina, with their wives, have been appointed to open this work, and will enter upon their mission this fall.

Africa.

In Africa the mission work is in a healthy condition, with some twenty-odd churches of various sizes, seating from one hundred and fifty to one thousand each; fifteen elementary and primary schools; two select private schools; six high schools, one for the training of native preachers and teachers. These schools have an attendance of 2,500 pupils.

Brazil

in which empire we have five organized churches, besides a number of out-stations worked by our missionaries and native helpers. The noble work being done in Rio Janerio, by Miss Maggie Rice, when she fell a victim to yellow fever in the winter, will be taken up by Miss Emma Morton, of Missouri, this summer.

Mexico.

Our Mexican Mission began in 1880, reports, May last, 19 churches, with over 600 members, besides a constantly increasing number of out-stations.

We have 20 American missionaries at work, besides over that number of native helpers. This work is meeting with gratifying results and quite a number have this year been added to the churches.

Madero Institute, our female seminary, is full to overflowing, so that applicants have to be turned away for want of room. This institute is proving a mighty power for good. The recently-opened male school is rapidly filling up.

Now, to carry on this great and constantly enlarging work of the convention the Foreign Board, to whose care it is entrusted, will need this year at least $150,000. May she come up to the full measure of her apportionment.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES HOGAN, Chairman.

HOME MISSIONS.

When, a few years since, the State Boards were forcing their way into existence and to usefulness, there was discussion among the brethren as to the necessity and usefulness of the Home Mission Board. That time is past. The State Boards now co-operate heartily with the Home Board, and the more efficient the State Board the greater help is it to the Home Board. See the mission reports from the States of Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland and Alabama, where each State Board is doing a great and progressive work.

From the annual report made to the Southern Baptist Convention—session of 1889—it will be seen that the Home Board accomplished more last year than during any former year of its existence.

It has employed 328 missionaries. It had 1,134 churches and stations. Through its workers 4,837 were baptized and 3,565 were received by letter, making a total addition to our ranks through its influence of 8,402 members.

Its receipts for the year for all purposes amounted to $155,485.99. Its expenditures were $159,157.04. Of its total receipts there was received from co-operative bodies, which was expended for mission within the bounds of those bodies and for church building, the sum of $86,087.16, leaving for general work $69,398.83.

Of these amounts the State of Alabama is credited with the sum of $4,055.40. This is not quite 4½ cents for each of the 92,261 white Baptists in this great and prosperous State for so important a work as that prosecuted by the Home Mission Board. Of the amount contributed by Alabama about 6¾ per cent. was expended within the State.

From the statistics gathered from the same source Canaan Association is credited with $8,850.80 contributed for all purposes, being about $3.71 per member.

This Association at its last session reported for missions: State, Home and Foreign and for Bible and Colportage work the sum of $556.65 about 22½ cents per member.

This year we are asked, in order that we may do our proportionate share for the same work, to contribute the sum of $2,200.00, to be divided as follows:

For the State Board	$1,100 00
For the Home Board	440 00
For the Foreign Board	440 00
For Indigent Ministers	73 33
For Bible and Colportage	146 67

which is about ninety cents per member. Can we do that? Would it not be a blot on our fair name to do less? We cannot do even that little without effort, general and systematic effort.

Your committee would call attention to another important work prosecuted by the Home Board, the publication of a splendid series of lesson

papers for our Sunday-Schools, graded to suit all classes from the lowest to the highest. They are the best ever prepared in the South among Baptist, and many think equal to any published in all the land. Your committee have nothing to say against those brethren, nor against those schools who prefer the publications made by our brethren at Philadelphia but beg to suggest there never was a more favorable opportunity to firmly establish a high grade of Sunday-school publications in the South. They think if well supported that at the end of the two and one-half years—when the contract with the present publishers will have expired—these publications will become a fine source of income to our Mission Board.

Your committee further suggest that if the little paper, *Home Field* were introduced into all our churches it would greatly aid pastors and deacons in making collections for Home Mission.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the apportionment of $2,200 for missions, for indigent ministers and for Bible and Colportage work be accepted by this Association, and that a committee be appointed who shall report at this session, to apportion this amount among the churches composing this body.

2. That each church of this Association be recommended to appoint one of her deacons to advocate and superintend the collection of mission and such other benevolent funds as reported to this body.

M. G. HUDSON,
DYER N. TALLEY.
Committee.

STATE MISSIONS.

It is now fifteen years since the Baptist State Convention, in its wisdom, organized the State Mission Board. For two years only one man was in its employ, because the Board had not the money to support more. But now there are near seventy men in the field, who report for the twelve months ending June 30th:

Days of service	4,957
Miles traveled	26,301
Sermons delivered	2,746
Addresses made	983
Churches constituted	12
Number of persons baptized	211
Baptized by others in connection with our labors	314
Received by letter	413
Restored	37
Sunday-schools organized	47
Sunday-schools addressed	180
Ladies' Missionary Societies organized	8
Prayer meetings organized	78
Prayer meetings held	817
Number of regular preaching stations without churches	127
Number of visits to preaching stations	196
Number of churches visited	338
Number of visits made	7,431
Subscribers to the *Alabama Baptist* secured	77
Subscribers to the *Foreign Mission Journal* secured	53
Families destitute of the Bible	142
Individuals destitute of the Bible	48
Number of Bibles donated	191
Number of Testaments donated	205
Value of Bibles and Testaments donated	$ 59 55
Number of books and pamphlets sold	1,297
*Value of books and pamphlets sold	$ 624 37
Pages of tracts distributed	7,312

* These figures show only what was sold by two or three men.

Meeting houses commenced	20
Meeting houses finished	5
Money collected for meeting houses	$8,670 56
Money collected for State Missions	1,433 37
Money collected for Home Missions	39 76
Money collected for Foreign Missions	102 20
Money collected for Ministerial Education	47 85
Money collected for Indigent Ministers	1 50

The depository received from the sale of books $2,945.53.

For the coming year the Board asks from Alabama for State Missions	$15,000
For Home Missions	[illegible]
For Foreign Missions	[illegible]
For Bible and Colportage work	2,000
For Indigent Ministers	[illegible]
Making in all	$30,000

It must be remembered that this Board, besides looking after the destitution in Alabama, becomes the agent of the other Boards also. Its missionaries are required to cultivate among the people the missionary idea in the *broadest* sense, *the whole world for Jesus Christ*, is the motto of the Board. The Canaan Association owes much of its present efficiency to the timely aid rendered our struggling churches by this Board in their infancy.

We are asked to give for the purposes fostered by the Board $2,200. We recommend that a committee be appointed to apportion this amount to the churches. S. R. C. ADAMS, Chairman.

The report on church improvements was read by T. V. B. Moor, and upon motion the same was adopted.

REPORT ON CHURCH IMPROVEMENT.

We your committee submit the following report:

There have been about six or eight new church edifices partially completed during this Associational year, and as many others greatly improved in various ways.

Upon the whole our people seem to be awakening to the importance of building good houses of worship, and providing them with the necessaries of comfort and convenience. Their liberality is manifesting itself throughout our bounds. As a result of this liberality the good Lord has been blessing the church with increase of numbers and zeal, and the conversion of many souls. He has said "Them that honor me, I will honor." And this is true not only in regard to honoring Him by holy living, but honoring Him with our "substance" as well. We should feel encouraged that we have made some advancement, yet we should not lose sight of the fact that "there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

We have in our own bounds important places where our help is needed to erect suitable houses of worship. Let us consecrate our means to the up-building of the Master's cause.

Respectfully submitted,

T. V. B. MOOR,
R. Y. ROBERTSON.

W. W. Harris moved that the chairman of the Committee on Temperance be requested to prepare a report and hand to the clerk. Substituted by a motion requesting Dr. B. F. Riley to

prepare a resolution setting forth the sentiments of the body on the question of Temperance, since no report was offered by the appointed committee.

The following resolution was offered by B. F. Riley, and on motion the same was adopted.

"*Resolved*, That the Canaan Association is in profound sympathy with all legitimate efforts which are being made in all quarters of the world for the suppression of the sale and manufacture of spirituous liquors."

Sunday Morning Session.

Owing to the illness of our venerable moderator, Rev. A. W. McGaha was called to the chair, and after singing, and prayer by A. S. Pinson, the report on Sunday-schools was read by H. H. Brown, and was discussed by G. W. Macon, M. G. Hudson and H. H. Brown, and upon motion the same was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Baptist churches of this immediate section of the country have great responsibilities resting upon them, and corresponding duties laid at their doors. As citizens, our membership have grave and important issues to meet, and solve, and they owe it to their God, their country, their families and themselves to prepare their minds and hearts for a faithful and honest discharge of all their duties in the premises. To fill the full and complete measure of citizenship, a man must be a Christian—a zealous, well-informed and working Christian. He should keep in view the great end for which he was created, and seek to know his whole duty, and then go forward fearlessly, discharging the same. To do this, the Sunday-school offers rare opportunities, for there is no department of church work so well calculated to strengthen and develope the christian character as that of the Sunday-school. To be a devoted, constant and unselfish worker in the Sunday-school, is to be a devout, earnest and consecrated Christian, and to be such a Christian, is to be a good and useful citizen. So it will be seen that, from a secular standpoint, the Sunday-school is of vast importance to the adult membership of our churches. Then, from this same view of the subject, it is of still more importance that the children, who are to be the future citizens of our favored land and country, should be trained and raised up to love and cherish the Sunday-school cause. If there could be a thoroughly organized and well conducted Sunday-School in every neighborhood, and if every child in the land could be brought to interest themselves in the reception of the teaching and training afforded by such means, the next generation would witness a country abounding in prosperity, peace and happiness, second only to the millenium itself. The value of the Sunday-school as a means of preparing ourselves and our children for the duties and responsibilities of secular citizenship cannot be over-estimated. But a more important aspect of the question is its spiritual significance. The world of sinners is to be brought to the "Cross of Calvary," through the instrumentality of the Gospel. It must be brought into direct contact with every human soul that is ever to be "washed in the blood of the Lamb." The only way of salvation is through the teaching of the Bible, the Book of God—and it must be taught to our children or they will be forever lost. To accomplish this purpose the Sunday-school is one of the safest and surest means. It offers opportunities for the teaching of Gospel truth superior, or at

least equal to any other plan ever devised by man. The Sunday-school teacher can get close to the person of his pupils, and if he is thoroughly devoted, consecrated and prepared for his work, he will just as surely get close to the hearts of his class.

The grandest, noblest, purest and best work of this life is preparing souls for the Heavenly Home which awaits the children of God, and in the Sunday-school is found a great work-shop for that business. In view of these facts, how important is the Sunday-school.

And now let us see and consider how we can best utilize this great power for good. In the first place, every church in our Association should have a thoroughly organized Sunday-school, well equipped for the great work to be acccomplished, and in every case where the circumstances and surroundings require, mission schools should be established; in short, every person within the bounds of our Association should have the opportunity, if they desire it, to attend a Baptist Sunday-school every Lord's day that comes. In the second place, every member of each and every church should be members of the Sunday-school. And upon this point we wish to urge that the old members should not think themselves exempt from this work, as the Sunday-school of any given church is not complete without the names of every member upon its roll, and the work cannot be fully and completely accomplished without the attendance of all, when not providentially hindered.

And in the third place, the entire congregation, especially the children, should be brought in and influenced to attend regularly upon each and every Sunday-school service. And upon the importance of securing the attendance of the children too much stress cannot be laid. It is in youth that the mind and character is moulded, and the early conversion of so many of the prominent and foremost workers in the vineyard of the Lord, is the strongest argument that can be brought to bear upon this special feature of the subject under consideration. Polycarp was converted at nine years of age; Mathew Henry at eleven; President Edwards at seven; Dr. Watts at nine; Bishop Hall at eleven and Robert Hall at twelve. And these too, when the children did not have such opportunities as they now have.

With all members of the church actively and prayerfully at work in the Sunday-school, and with the entire congregation and all the children as material to work upon, how much could be done for the Master. Glorious opportunity! Grand results!

A word as to Sunday-school "helps," and we will close. Our schools should by all means use Baptist literature. Non-sectarian Sunday-school helps should never be found in Baptist Sunday-schools. We cannot afford to sacrifice principles for the sake of popularity, nor for the purpose of saving the trifling difference in cost, if any there be, in favor of such literature. The publishers of non-sectarian papers claim that their's is best because they avoid doctrinal points, and contain nothing sectarian or partisan. Upon this subject one of the most prominent Sunday-school writers in this country has said: "An exposition of God's Word, that deftly dodges an error without condemnation, for fear of offending some one, is not in harmony with the spirit of Christ. He did not tolerate, but condemned, error. Any exposition that seeks to please all by having no convictions or disputed points, is contemptible; if it smothers its convictions for the sake of gain it is still more contemptible; and if it roars forth its convictions only in cases of differences held by smaller and obscure sects, it is most contemptible. Our age needs sound doctrine. The curse of any age is a nebulous, intangible liberalism, too shallow to hold strong convictions respecting truth or too timid to express them. Denominations are the outgrowth of independent thought and intelligent conviction; and so far from being crimes against Christianity, are the best evidences of

widespread and vigorous Christian life. So long as we have denominations let us have denominational Sunday-school helps." And to all of which we say, a hearty Amen.

Let us all resolve now to go home to our respective churches with a firm determination to give the Sunday-school work, in the future, our most hearty, candid and prayerful support,

Fraternally submitted,

H. H. BROWN, Chairman.

The missionary sermon was preached by Rev. S. Henderson, D. D., after which a cash collection was taken amounting to $43.25.

SUNDAY NIGHT SESSION.

After a very earnest and profitable sermon by Rev. P. T. Hale, the body was called to order by A. W. McGaha, moderator *pro tem.*

Upon motion of P. S. Montgomery, the clerk was instructed to print 1,000 copies of the minutes and after paying expenses of printing and delivering the minutes, he be allowed to retain the remainder of the minute fund for his services.

Upon motion of C. C. Jones, it was ordered that the money collected on Sunday be equally divided between the three Boards.

Upon motion of P. S. Montgomery, the body adjourned to meet with the Baptist church, at Bessemer, at 10 o'clock a. m., on Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1890.

A. J. WALDROP, Moderator.

R. W. BECK, Clerk.

CHURCHES.	Ordained Ministers.	Licensed Ministers.	INCREASE			DECREASE				TOTAL 1889.	TOTAL 1888.	Sund'y Schools		Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	State Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Church Building and Repairs.	Other Expenses.	Minutes.	Prstor's Salary.	Value of Church Property.	PASTOR.	POST OFFICE.	CLERK.	POST OFFICE.
			By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Restoration.	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Erasure.	By Death.			Officers and Teachers.	Pupils.													
Avondale			16	51		13	4		1	116	68					$ 46 25			$ 444 08	$4 00	$ 595 25		F. P. Douglas	Avondale, Ala	G. T. Roberts	Avondale, Ala
Adger										19													R. H. Blake	Adger	J. F. Boston	Adger
Bessemer	1		8	48		1	1		4	86	36	8	84	$ 3 85		23 20			$ 279 02	49 62	2 50	513 19	$1,500 00	G. T. Lee	Bessemer	L. A. Hendon	Bessemer
Bethany			1			7				44	50			5 00							1 75		G. W. Lovell	Springville		
Birmingham—First	3		4	35		44	4		5	479	487	18	150			103 79			2,684 25	5 00	2,484 00	25,000 00	W. L. Pickard	Birmingham	E. F. Enslen	Birmingham
" S. side	2		59	122	1	16			2	379	171		175			196 40		2,423 05	9,205 50	5 00	1,200 00		P. T. Hale	"	J. A. Stratton	
" 2nd	3		11	16		9	9		1	49	41	7	50	24 00		51 16	$12 00	34 10	117 81	2 00	400 0		M. M. Wood	Mounds	J. P. Rockett	Mounds
* " 3d																										
Canaan			10	6	1	7			2	46	46	4	40						5 47	2 00	58 75		E. L. Nickelson	Blocton	J. N. Smithson	Jonesboro
Central			5	3		4	1			71	70	4	40	3 25	$ 3 00	7 25			38 20	2 50	100 00		J. A. Glenn	Ashville	R. M. Inzer	Argo
Concord		2		4		1	8			33	38								12 00	1 50	35 00		V. A. Wilson	Bessemer	S. O. Franklin	Brownsville
Dolomite			50	21	1	18	5		2	150	103	6	75			22 85			95 70	3 00	161 00		G. T. Lee	"	Isaac Vines	Dolomite
Elyton	1		1	17				1		37	20	7	60			17 20		1,572 20	17 07	2 00	140 00	2,000 00	W. W. Harris	Birmingham	T. H. Wildsmith	Birmingham
Enon			4	3		2			1	53	56								159 75	2 25	45 00		R. W. Inzer		W. M. Rodgers	Morris
Ensley			1	7						13			24							1 00			G D. Staten	Woodlawn	D. J. Faggard	Ensley
*Green Springs																										
*Hopewell																										
Mt. Olive			2	4						19	13									2 00	25 00	500 00	G. W. Lovell	Springville	J. M. Landrum	Clay
New Prospect	1	1	2	16		9	3		4	135	123	5	76				1 50		21 00	3 00	80 00		M. T. Branham	Huffman	J. B. Franklin	Huffman
Oak Grove			6	5		2			1	86	80	3	36	5 25					68 25	2 00	79 50		E. B. Waldrop	Huffman	W. B. McCombs	New Castle
Pratt Mines			7	20		2			1	120	102	9	120	16 40	13 30	37 40			106 20		165 00		G. D. Staten	Woodlawn	J. W. Hancock	Pratt Mines
Pleasant Ridge	2			4						62	67					37 00				2 50	70 00		G. T. Lee	Bessemer	S. H. Huey	Woodward
Ruhama	7	3	32	51	1	21	1		1	219	162					139 64		3,150 41	470 08	5 00	1,500 00	12,000 00	A. W. McGaha	East Lake	H. F. Wood	East Lake
Salem			11	4		3			2	99	82	3	25	70	1 00	1 00	3 10		71 95	2 00	50 00		M. T. Branham	Huffman	J. H. Hagood	Mt. Pinson
Springville		1	4	6		4			6	95	96	6	60			14 20			50 00	108 75	3 20	150 00		J. A. Glenn	Ashville	J. B. Herring	Springville
Trussville	1		16	3	1	15	1		2	137	135	8	80	12 00		38 95			320 20	329 55	3 50	300 00	3,000 00	S. R. C. Adams	Woodlawn	D. H. Vann	Trussville
*Warrior	1																									
Woodlawn	4	1	15	35		16				134	100	18	126	34 25	23 25	46 00	25 00	599 75	174 20	4 00	900 00	8,000 00	S. R. C. Adams	Woodlawn	W. N. Whitaker	Woodlawn
Totals			265							2681	2146			$108 70	$40 55	$781 65	$41 60			$61 70						

* No better.